4. Erection of fencing/walls in abandoned/disused workings, drowning of old workings.

5. Dozing off and filling up the illegal mining sites wherever possible.

6. Black listing the trucks seized carrying coal from such operation.

7. Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining of coal are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police stations and FIRs are lodged.

8. Close liaison is kept with the District and State Authorities seeking their help and cooperation in curbing illegal mining.

Shifting of CIL headquarters from Kolkata

785. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the headquarters of Coal India Limited, out of Kolkata; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Government has received representations in this regard and an appropriate decision will be taken after due consideration of all issues.

Shortage of Coal

786. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing acute shortage of coal and now it is proposed to import coal from China and other countries;

(b) if so, what is the current shortage and its future forecast;

(c) whether it is also a fact that coal shortage has cut down production of steel which in turn has increased prices of steel; and

(d) if so, what is Government's action plan to tide over this crisis to help the steel and other industries to raise their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Coal consuming industries like steel